A8050-14

December 24, 1984

FOR RELEASE A.M. MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1984

press release

Contact:
Charles Pollock

McLean, VA, December 31, 1984 -- Net new orders for American machine tools declined 25% in November to a level of $212.15 million, according to data released today by the National Machine Tool Builders' Association, the industry's trade group. Shipments rose a slight 2% for the month, totalling $212.40 million.

Association President James A. Gray commented that, "even though the economy now appears to be on a plateau, forecasts for 1985 by machine tool industry analysts are encouraging, especially after the past two years. Demand for American machine tools should continue to increase in the new year," Gray said. However, he cautioned that "an unexpected increase in interest rates or slowdown in the manufacturing sector's operating rates would produce a very quick change in the outlook for the machine tool industry."

Orders for metal cutting machine tools were off 17% in November, at $160.15 million, while shipments rose 10%, at $159.70 million. Metal

- over -

national machine tool builders' association
7901 WESTPARK DRIVE
McLEAN, VIRGINIA 22102
AREA CODE (703) 893-2900
TWX: 710-831-0031 NMTBA MCLN

forming orders were down 43% for the month, totalling $52 million, while shipments in the category fell 16% to a level of $52.70 million.

Order backlogs were virtually unchanged at the end of November, totalling $1.7 billion.

# # # # # # # # #

COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Thousands of Dollars)

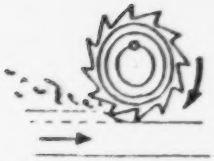
	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
Nov. 1984	154,950	5,200	160,150	51,450	550	52,000	206,400	5,750	212,150
Oct. 1984	176,650	15,100	191,750	71,550	20,300	91,850	248,200	35,400	283,600
% Change Nov. 1984:Oct. 1984	-12.3	-65.6	-16.5	-28.1	-97.3	-43.4	-16.8	-83.8	-25.2
Nov. 1983	107,650	7,700	115,350	40,850	4,050	44,900	148,500	11,750	160,250
% Change Nov. 1984:Nov. 1983	+43.9	-32.5	+38.8	+25.9	-86.4	+15.8	+39.0	-51.1	+32.4
Year To Date 1984	1,557,600	199,250	1,756,850	838,500	65,450	903,950	2,396,100	264,700	2,660,800
Year To Date 1983	985,300	75,100	1,060,400	440,450	44,050	484,500	1,425,750	119,150	1,544,900
% Change 1984 : 1983	+58.1	+165.3	+65.7	+90.4	+48.6	+86.6	+68.1	+122.2	+72.2

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Thousands of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
Nov. 1984	147,800	11,900	159,700	48,300	4,400	52,700	196,100	16,300	212,400
Oct. 1984	129,450	15,700	145,150	57,600	5,000	62,600	187,050	20,700	207,750
% Change Nov. 1984:Oct. 1984	+14.2	-24.2	+10.0	-16.1	-12.0	-15.8	+4.8	-21.3	+2.2
Nov. 1983	96,150	11,100	107,250	37,100	3,350	40,450	133,250	14,450	147,700
% Change Nov. 1984:Nov. 1983	+53.7	+7.2	+48.9	+30.2	+31.3	+30.3	+47.2	+12.8	+43.8
Year To Date 1984	1,301,050	105,250	1,406,300	539,650	64,850	604,500	1,840,700	170,100	2,010,800
Year To Date 1983	1,047,450	142,300	1,189,750	376,100	41,400	417,500	1,423,550	183,700	1,607,250
% Change 1984 : 1983	+24.2	-26.0	+18.2	+43.5	+56.6	+44.8	+29.3	-7.4	+25.1

Source: National Machine Tool Builders' Association

Form No. PRCC-2



TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog

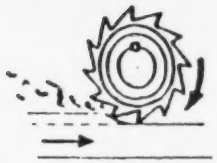
DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog (In Mil. $)	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984							
Jan.	$ 175,550,000	$ 13,550,000	$ 189,100,000	1,120.85	$ 100,900,000	$ 12,050,000	$ 112,950,000
Feb.	$ 187,700,000	$ 15,200,000	$ 202,900,000	1,176.45	$ 135,700,000	$ 11,600,000	$ 147,300,000
Mar.	$ 188,650,000	$ 19,800,000	$ 208,450,000	1,195.65	$ 172,350,000	$ 16,900,000	$ 189,250,000
Apr.	$ 201,600,000	$ 51,500,000	$ 253,100,000	1,290.00	$ 145,000,000	$ 13,750,000	$ 158,750,000
May	$ 291,900,000	$ 27,650,000	$ 319,550,000	1,399.50	$ 194,400,000	$ 15,650,000	$ 210,050,000
June	$ 161,150,000	$ 30,600,000	$ 191,750,000	1,387.75	$ 182,200,000	$ 21,300,000	$ 203,500,000
July	$ 299,600,000	$ 13,800,000	$ 313,400,000	1,507.40	$ 182,000,000	$ 11,750,000	$ 193,750,000
Aug.	$ 180,250,000	$ 20,350,000	$ 200,600,000	1,543.65	$ 155,150,000	$ 9,200,000	$ 164,350,000
Sept.	$ 255,100,000	$ 31,100,000	$ 286,200,000	1,619.10	$ 189,850,000	$ 20,900,000	$ 210,750,000
Oct.	$ 248,200,000	$ 35,400,000	$ 283,600,000	1,694.95	$ 187,050,000	$ 20,700,000	$ 207,750,000
Nov. (p)	$ 206,400,000	$ 5,750,000	$ 212,150,000	1,694.70	$ 196,100,000	$ 16,300,000	$ 212,400,000
11 Mos.	$2,396,100,000	$ 264,700,000	$2,660,800,000		$1,840,700,000	$ 170,100,000	$2,010,800,000

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984						
Jan.	$ 183,900,000	$ 14,300,000	$ 198,200,000	$ 8,350,000	$ 750,000	$ 9,100,000
Feb.	$ 197,050,000	$ 16,900,000	$ 213,950,000	$ 9,350,000	$ 1,700,000	$ 11,050,000
Mar.	$ 196,700,000	$ 21,200,000	$ 217,900,000	$ 8,050,000	$ 1,400,000	$ 9,450,000
Apr.	$ 209,800,000	$ 52,050,000	$ 261,850,000	$ 8,200,000	$ 550,000	$ 8,750,000
May	$ 303,700,000	$ 27,850,000	$ 331,550,000	$ 11,800,000	$ 200,000	$ 12,000,000
June	$ 178,200,000	$ 32,450,000	$ 210,650,000	$ 17,050,000	$ 1,850,000	$ 18,900,000
July	$ 301,800,000	$ 14,200,000	$ 316,000,000	$ 2,200,000	$ 400,000	$ 2,600,000
Aug.	$ 189,600,000	$ 20,700,000	$ 210,300,000	$ 9,350,000	$ 350,000	$ 9,700,000
Sept.	$ 264,000,000	$ 31,800,000	$ 295,800,000	$ 8,900,000	$ 700,000	$ 9,600,000
Oct.	$ 256,700,000	$ 36,550,000	$ 293,250,000	$ 8,500,000	$ 1,150,000	$ 9,650,000
Nov. (p)	$ 220,500,000	$ 7,050,000	$ 227,550,000	$ 14,100,000	$ 1,300,000	$ 15,400,000
11 Mos.	$2,501,950,000	$ 275,050,000	$2,777,000,000	$ 105,850,000	$ 10,350,000	$ 116,200,000

P - Preliminary

N.M.T.B.A. F - 1c

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.



INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog (In Mil. $)	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984							
Jan.	$ 122,500,000	$ 10,700,000	$ 133,200,000	883.80	$ 65,350,000	$ 7,200,000	$ 72,550,000
Feb.	$ 121,700,000	$ 11,350,000	$ 133,050,000	913.80	$ 95,300,000	$ 7,750,000	$ 103,050,000
Mar.	$ 131,900,000	$ 14,600,000	$ 146,500,000	937.80	$ 112,350,000	$ 10,150,000	$ 122,500,000
Apr.	$ 135,700,000	$ 44,100,000	$ 179,800,000	1,016.10	$ 92,700,000	$ 8,800,000	$ 101,500,000
May	$ 167,500,000	$ 20,950,000	$ 188,450,000	1,054.55	$ 142,100,000	$ 7,900,000	$ 150,000,000
June	$ 107,550,000	$ 23,400,000	$ 130,950,000	1,035.20	$ 138,750,000	$ 11,550,000	$ 150,300,000
July	$ 126,050,000	$ 9,800,000	$ 135,850,000	1,037.80	$ 127,500,000	$ 5,750,000	$ 133,250,000
Aug.	$ 118,250,000	$ 16,750,000	$ 135,000,000	1,055.85	$ 111,050,000	$ 5,900,000	$ 116,950,000
Sept.	$ 194,850,000	$ 27,300,000	$ 222,150,000	1,126.65	$ 138,700,000	$ 12,650,000	$ 151,350,000
Oct.	$ 176,650,000	$ 15,100,000	$ 191,750,000	1,173.25	$ 129,450,000	$ 15,700,000	$ 145,150,000
Nov. (p)	$ 154,950,000	$ 5,200,000	$ 160,150,000	1,173.70	$ 147,800,000	$ 11,900,000	$ 159,700,000
11 Mos.	$1,557,600,000	$ 199,250,000	$1,756,850,000		$1,301,050,000	$105,250,000	$1,406,300,000

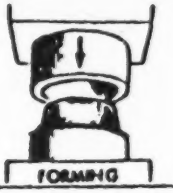
DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984						
Jan.	$ 127,550,000	$ 10,750,000	$ 138,300,000	$ 5,050,000	$ 50,000	$ 5,100,000
Feb.	$ 130,600,000	$ 12,400,000	$ 143,000,000	$ 8,900,000	$ 1,050,000	$ 9,950,000
Mar.	$ 137,150,000	$ 15,950,000	$ 153,100,000	$ 5,250,000	$ 1,350,000	$ 6,600,000
Apr.	$ 141,800,000	$ 44,200,000	$ 186,000,000	$ 6,100,000	$ 100,000	$ 6,200,000
May	$ 171,250,000	$ 21,100,000	$ 192,350,000	$ 3,750,000	$ 150,000	$ 3,900,000
June	$ 123,050,000	$ 25,200,000	$ 148,250,000	$ 15,500,000	$ 1,800,000	$ 17,300,000
July	$ 127,350,000	$ 10,000,000	$ 137,350,000	$ 1,300,000	$ 200,000	$ 1,500,000
Aug.	$ 124,300,000	$ 17,050,000	$ 141,350,000	$ 6,050,000	$ 300,000	$ 6,350,000
Sept.	$ 201,550,000	$ 27,950,000	$ 229,500,000	$ 6,700,000	$ 650,000	$ 7,350,000
Oct.	$ 182,750,000	$ 15,950,000	$ 198,700,000	$ 6,100,000	$ 850,000	$ 6,950,000
Nov. (p)	$ 163,750,000	$ 6,450,000	$ 170,200,000	$ 8,800,000	$ 1,250,000	$ 10,050,000
11 Mos.	$1,631,100,000	$ 207,000,000	$1,838,100,000	$ 73,500,000	$ 7,750,000	$ 81,250,000

P - Preliminary

N.M.T.B.A. F - 1c

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog



	NET NEW ORDERS			Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS		
DATE	Domestic	Foreign	Total	(In Mil. $)	Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984							
Jan.	$ 53,050,000	$ 2,850,000	$ 55,900,000	237.05	$ 35,550,000	$ 4,850,000	$ 40,400,000
Feb.	$ 66,000,000	$ 3,850,000	$ 69,850,000	262.65	$ 40,400,000	$ 3,850,000	$ 44,250,000
Mar.	$ 56,750,000	$ 5,200,000	$ 61,950,000	257.85	$ 60,000,000	$ 6,750,000	$ 66,750,000
Apr.	$ 65,900,000	$ 7,400,000	$ 73,300,000	273.90	$ 52,300,000	$ 4,950,000	$ 57,250,000
May	$ 124,400,000	$ 6,700,000	$ 131,100,000	344.95	$ 52,300,000	$ 7,750,000	$ 60,050,000
June	$ 53,600,000	$ 7,200,000	$ 60,800,000	352.55	$ 43,450,000	$ 9,750,000	$ 53,200,000
July	$ 173,550,000	$ 4,000,000	$ 177,550,000	469.60	$ 54,500,000	$ 6,000,000	$ 60,500,000
Aug.	$ 62,000,000	$ 3,600,000	$ 65,600,000	487.80	$ 44,100,000	$ 3,300,000	$ 47,400,000
Sept.	$ 60,250,000	$ 3,800,000	$ 64,050,000	492.45	$ 51,150,000	$ 8,250,000	$ 59,400,000
Oct.	$ 71,550,000	$ 20,300,000	$ 91,850,000	521.70	$ 57,600,000	$ 5,000,000	$ 62,600,000
Nov. (p)	$ 51,450,000	$ 550,000	$ 52,000,000	521.00	$ 48,300,000	$ 4,400,000	$ 52,700,000
11 Mos.	$ 838,500,000	$ 65,450,000	$ 903,950,000		$ 539,650,000	$ 64,850,000	$ 604,500,000

	GROSS NEW ORDERS			CANCELLATIONS		
DATE	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
1984						
Jan.	$ 56,350,000	$ 3,550,000	$ 59,900,000	$ 3,300,000	$ 700,000	$ 4,000,000
Feb.	$ 66,450,000	$ 4,500,000	$ 70,950,000	$ 450,000	$ 650,000	$ 1,100,000
Mar.	$ 59,550,000	$ 5,250,000	$ 64,800,000	$ 2,800,000	$ 50,000	$ 2,850,000
Apr.	$ 68,000,000	$ 7,850,000	$ 75,850,000	$ 2,100,000	$ 450,000	$ 2,550,000
May	$ 132,450,000	$ 6,750,000	$ 139,200,000	$ 8,050,000	$ 50,000	$ 8,100,000
June	$ 55,150,000	$ 7,250,000	$ 62,400,000	$ 1,550,000	$ 50,000	$ 1,600,000
July	$ 174,450,000	$ 4,200,000	$ 178,650,000	$ 900,000	$ 200,000	$ 1,100,000
Aug.	$ 65,300,000	$ 3,650,000	$ 68,950,000	$ 3,300,000	$ 50,000	$ 3,350,000
Sept.	$ 62,450,000	$ 3,850,000	$ 66,300,000	$ 2,200,000	$ 50,000	$ 2,250,000
Oct.	$ 73,950,000	$ 20,600,000	$ 94,550,000	$ 2,400,000	$ 300,000	$ 2,700,000
Nov. (p)	$ 56,750,000	$ 600,000	$ 57,350,000	$ 5,300,000	$ 50,000	$ 5,350,000
11 Mos.	$ 870,850,000	$ 68,050,000	$ 938,900,000	$ 32,350,000	$ 2,600,000	$ 34,950,000

P - Preliminary

N.M.T.B.A. F - 1d

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.